

amount of surfactant in said solution being about 0.01% to about 0.15% based on the combined weight of the ammonium nitrate and the surfactant;

atomizing the solution to form a stream of droplets;

freeze-drying the droplets to form agglomerates of crystals of phase stabilized ammonium nitrate, the crystals of phase stabilized ammonium nitrate in the agglomerates being coated with a film comprising the surfactant; and

disintegrating the agglomerates into separated free-flowing phase stabilized ammonium nitrate crystals coated with a film comprising a surfactant.

Please cancel claim 5.

Please amend claim 11 as follows:

11. (Amended) A process for preparing phase-stabilized ammonium nitrate comprising the steps of:

preparing an aqueous solution of ammonium nitrate, a surfactant, and potassium nitrate, the amount of surfactant in said solution being about 0.01% to about 0.15% based on the combined weight of the ammonium nitrate and the surfactant;

atomizing the aqueous solution to form a stream of droplets;

cooling the stream of droplets to a temperature below the freezing point of the solution;

sublimating the frozen droplets to remove the water from the frozen droplets to form agglomerates of crystals of phase stabilized ammonium nitrate, said crystals of phase

Serial No. 09/767,567

stabilized ammonium nitrate in the agglomerates being coated with a film of surfactant; and

disintegrating the agglomerates into separated free-flowing phase stabilized ammonium nitrate crystals coated with a film comprising the surfactant.

Please cancel claim 13.